

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Presently claims 16-35 stand pending. Claims 16, 19 and 27-29 are amended herein, and claims 30-35 are cancelled without prejudice. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested. No new matter is added by these amendments. After entry of these amendments, claims 16-29 remain pending in this application.

The amendment of claim 16 is directed to reduce the scope of the claim from including treatment of wounds as a wound may be known to those skilled in the art. This follows from the August 16, 2007 interview between the Examiner and the undersigned, during which a discussion that included various definitions of wounds was considered helpful toward focusing amendment of claims that could lead to allowability. One part of this interview included the undersigned's recollection from graduate school that a scientific study had found that U.S. Navy pilots given supplemental zinc were less likely to experience acute wounds, particularly nose bleeding during high G flights, and that he believed such study would not have led to an obviousness rejection for supplemental zinc treatments such as for colds.

All claim amendments except for claim 19 amendment are discussed in the sections below. As to the claim 19 amendment, this is made to simplify and clarify the claim, particularly in view of the telephonic interview.

Claim Objections

Claim 27 is objected to for an inadvertent error in deletion in the previous amendment. This is now corrected, by deleting a "1" and entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 USC 112

Claims 28-29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. To advance this application toward allowance of claims, the wider range for each of these claims is deleted by amendment herein. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims under 35 USC § 102

Claims 30-35 stand rejected again under 35 USC 102(b) as being allegedly anticipated by Ziche et al. This rejection is rendered moot by cancellation of these claims without prejudice.

Rejection of Claims under 35 USC § 103

Claims 16-22 and 23-29 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Ziche et al. in view of Failla et al.

It is believed that the amendment of claim 16 overcomes this rejection in view of the discussion during the telephonic interview of what a wound properly is considered. Accordingly, arguments made in previousl replies are not re-presented here.

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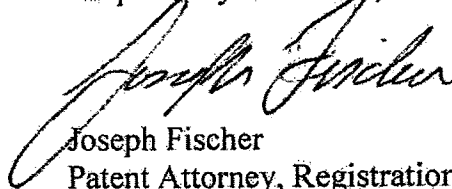
Having overcome all rejections and objections, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case for the claims as provided herein.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any aspects of this Reply/Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion. The undersigned notes that he is currently

Application No: 10/507,272; Docket No: 10500-008
Amdt. dated November 1, 2007
Reply to Final Office action of June 1, 2007

not available for such interview, due to travel, until November 8, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph Fischer".

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